

REMARKS

In the above referenced case, claims 176-178, 180-182, 185-192, 194-196, 199-207, 209-211, 214-220, 222-224, and 227-232 are pending. Applicant will sequentially address the issues raised by the Examiner.

I. Claim Objections

Claims 189, 203, and 231 were objected to for certain informalities. Claims 189, 203, and 231 have been canceled. Therefore, the objections with respect to these claims are now moot.

II. The 35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 176, 189-190, 203-205, 217, and 231-232 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Muro et al., JP 63236494 (“MURO”).

A. Claim 176

It is axiomatic that the cited reference in a §102 rejection must disclose every element in the rejected claim. Elements [a]-[g] of claim 176 all recite “substantially collimated” beams. MURO does not disclose or suggest substantially collimated beams as recited in claim 176.

The Examiner cited the halogen lamp (10) of MURO in combination with a condensing mirror (behind the lamp and referred to as “concave mirror 29” in the text) as allegedly disclosing a substantially collimated primary beam of electromagnetic energy recited in element [a] of claim 176. However, the concave mirror as illustrated in MURO is not parabolic. In fact, it is illustrated to be semi-spherical emulating the contour of the

circular halogen lamp (10). Thus, the Examiner has failed to show any disclosure in MURO of a “parabolic” condensing mirror.

Second, even if assuming for arguments sake only, that the light entering the condenser lens (12) in MURO is substantially collimated, the light exiting the condenser lens (12) cannot be substantially collimated. Light beams passing through condenser lens (12) are bent at angles proportional to their distance from the centerline of the lens (see MURO, Figure 7). A family of light rays, each of which is bent by different amounts, is no longer traveling in the same direction and cannot remain substantially collimated. Every implementation in MURO includes the condenser lens 12. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that MURO cannot disclose or suggest elements [b]-[g] of claim 176, each of which recites substantially collimated beams. Therefore, claim 176 is not anticipated by MURO and is in condition for allowance.

B. Independent Claims 190, 205, and 217

Independent claims 190, 205, and 217 each includes the same limitation (“substantial collimated” beams) in multiple elements as in claim 176 as discussed above. Based on the foregoing for claim 176, claims 190, 205, and 217 are also not anticipated by MURO and are in condition for allowance.

C. Dependent Claims

Based on all the foregoing regarding the independent claims, all the pending dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

III. The 35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections Regarding Dependent Claims

Various dependent claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over MURO in view of other references. Based on the foregoing regarding

independent claims 176, 190, 205, and 217, Applicant respectfully submits that the §103 rejections of the dependent claims are now moot and these claims are in condition for allowance.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would help advance the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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